

8th Grade Week 5

Origins of Slavery

- *Portuguese started the slave trade
- *Sugar cane and tobacco made slavery/servants “necessary”
- *Indentured servants were like slaves, but they had a contract that allowed them to work off their debt and eventually become free
- *Slave imports soared, 1720 - 20% of Virginia = slaves, by 1750-60 = 40%

Diversity

- *All colonies shared adequate rainfall, temperate climates
- ***New England** = Mass, Conn, NH, RI
 - Mostly English, some Scotch-Irish
 - Fishing was major to economy, oil, timber
 - Imported sugar, wheat, manufactured items
- ***Middle** = NY, NJ, Penn, Delaware
 - Dutch, Scotch, Scotch-Irish, Germans, Africans, Swedes
 - NY used slaves to harvest wheat
 - Relied on Britain for manufactured good, West Indies for Sugar
- ***Chesapeake** = Maryland, Virginia
 - Germans, Scotch-Irish 60% White, 40% black
 - Tobacco, wheat are major exports
 - Imported manufactured goods, slaves
- ***Southern** = NC, SC, Georgia
 - SC = black majority
 - English & Africans
 - Slaves considered necessary as labor for plantations
 - Tobacco, Rice, & Indigo = exports
 - Slaves, manufactured goods, sugar, and rum = imports

Family & Social Life

- *Land-owning was very important
- *Had little knowledge of medicine
- *“God decided who was rich and poor”
- *Women took care of the house
- *Men should participate in church and government

*Chesapeake

- Challenging environment, high death rate
- Males outnumbered females (hard for men to marry)
- Divorce is NOT OKAY in colonial life
- Parents chose children’s spouses based on \$
- Like vegetables, slaves got corn gruel
- William & Mary college trained people in religion, some other subjects
- Horse racing was quite popular

***New England**

- Average # of births = 8 (with 6 surviving)
- Marriage is religious value, arranged marriage unheard of
- Divorce allowed for certain reasons (adultery, abuse, etc)
- Wood houses, ate a lot of fish, baked goods were important
- Education highly valued (for religious reasons), great commitment to college
- Enjoyed team sports (football, baseball)
- Longer, healthier life expectancy